USGS
Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

LANDSAT 7 MONTHLY UPDATE

The Landsat 7 Mission, developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is managed by the U.S. Geological Survey under authority established by Presidential Decision Directive NSTC-3.

Program News

Landsat 4/5 Status

Space Imaging is in the process of notifying International Ground Stations of their intent to transfer responsibility for Landsat 4/5 operations to USGS effective July 1, 2001. The USGS has notified Space Imaging to proceed immediately with actions necessary to fully decommission Landsat 4, including steps to de-orbit the spacecraft. The USGS and NASA are continuing to discuss the disposition of Landsat 5 and will keep the international and general user community informed as these discussions evolve.

South Africa Ground Station Operational

On April 20, 2001, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa signed the MOU to receive and distribute Landsat 7 data. The ground station at Hartebeeshoek is operated by the Satellite Applications Centre and began receiving Landsat 7 data operationally on April 1, 2001.

Technical News

Landsat 7 Browse Image Viewer

The Landsat 7 Program is pleased to announce the public availability of an internet capability to quickly access and view Landsat 7 browse images. This internet capability uses a visual interface to navigate the global Landsat 7 archive managed by U.S. Geological Survey. Browse images for scenes acquired during the mission, including scenes acquired through the previous day, can be displayed for the entire earth's surface. The Landsat 7 Browse Image Viewer can be found at: **http://edclxs2.cr.usgs.gov/L7ImgViewer.shtml**

Validation Success

The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing Ground Station at Gatineau has provided Level 0Rp data that have been successfully ingested and validated. This station will now be added to the schedule for biannual validation. The China Remote Sensing Satellite Ground Station has provided data to the USGS for their biannual validation that have successfully been processed and validated. The accompanying summary table lists the ground stations that have been validated and the date they were last validated.

IGS with Successful Validation

IGS	Format Validated	Last Date Validated
Argentina	Raw CC	23-Mar-01
Australia(2)	L0Rp	28-Mar-01
Canada(2)	L0Rp	17-Jan-01
China	L0Rp	16-Jan-01
Japan, Hatoyama	L0Rp	7-Feb-01
Japan, Hiroshima	Raw CC	4-Apr-01

Australian IGS Metadata added to the EDC Archive

Landsat 7 scene metadata from two more ground stations have been successfully added to the EDC global inventory. The Australian ground stations at Alice Springs (ASA) and Hobart (HOA) have passed metadata ingest tests with operational ingest starting on 4/23/01. Both station's backlog of scenes have been ingested into the archive with daily ingest now fully operational. The Australian's metadata archive joins the two Canadian stations (Prince Albert, PAC & Gatineau, GNC) in the production database, and brings the total IGS scene inventory to date to approximately 60,000 scenes.

Additional IGS Metadata Search Capability added to Public Client

The NASA Earth Science Enterprise public search client (Earth Observing System Data Gateway) at: **http://edcimswww.cr.usgs.gov/pub/imswelcome/** was upgraded on April 27th to add the capability to customize an IGS scene search with four new extended search criteria. Customers can now customize searches based on the three-letter station-id, scene cloud cover range, and the two solar angles.

Landsat 5/7 Cross Calibration

A section on Landsat 5/7 cross calibration has been added to the Landsat 7 Science Data Users Handbook. The handbook and the new section can be accessed at: **http//ltpwww.gsfc.nasa.gov/IAS/handbook_htmls/chapter8/chapter8.3.html**

Meetings

LTWG-10 Meeting

The meeting is set for June 26-29, 2001 in Rapid City, South Dakota. Participants will be given the option of flying into Sioux Falls and visiting the EROS Data Center on June 25th, or making arrangements to fly into and out of Rapid City, SD.

LGSOWG-30 Plans Set

The proposed meeting dates are September 25-28, 2001 in Orlando, Florida.

EO-1 Meeting

The EO-1 Science Validation and Instrument Team Meeting is May 1-4, 2001 in Tucson, Arizona. Presentations will cover instrument performance and calibration and field campaign results.

Second LDCM Workshop

Approximately 100 participants reviewed and discussed the latest draft of the Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM) data specification at the Second LDCM Workshop, held April 23-24 in St. Louis, in conjunction with the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing conference. Workshop presentations are posted at http://ldcm.usgs.gov/. The final data specification will drive requirements for an LDCM spacecraft to be developed, launched, and operated by a commercial data provider no later than the spring of 2006. At this time, some additions to the ETM+ spectral bands are anticipated. Also, the inclusion of one or more thermal bands is uncertain. International Cooperators and USGS Business Partners are encouraged to review LDCM information at the WEB site and submit comments and suggestions as soon as possible. A draft Request for Proposals will be released to the aerospace community sometime around July or August of this year.

Related News

Landsat 7 Canadian Coverage

The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS), in partnership with the Centre for Topographic Information, is providing free of charge a one time Canadian coverage of ortho-rectified Landsat 7 satellite imagery. The CCRS is providing the corresponding Level 1G imagery as well. About 600 scenes are required to cover the Canadian landmass and will be made available from a GeoGratis web site (http://geogratis.cgdi.gc.ca/frames.html) after April 1, 2001. Only a select number of scenes will be available initially, but about 200 scenes per year eventually will be available.

The Landsat 7 Monthly Update is an informal communication tool, prepared monthly and distributed electronically to USGS Landsat 7 partners, to provide information about Landsat 7 activities and related topics of interest. Comments, corrections, and queries may be directed to David Carneggie at the following email address: carneggie@usgs.gov.